Dataspire

Online Safety Resource Guide 2026

Think Digital Education, Think Digital Transformation, Think Dataspire!

Introduction

Learning online should be an adventure, not a worry, so to support schools and to celebrate Safer Internet Day, each year we develop an Online Safety Toolkit packed with free resources to unlock the magic of online learning while safeguarding every step.

New for 2026: Supporting this year's theme, *Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI*, we've also included AI safety resources to help schools navigate the challenges of artificial intelligence in education, from understanding AI-generated content to teaching students how to use AI tools responsibly.

No need to trawl the web for hours – we've done the legwork!

Inside, you'll find interactive activities, thought-provoking discussions, and age-appropriate guidance for students, teachers, and your family. This year's guide includes dedicated sections on AI literacy and safety, with ready-to-use games, lesson plans, and frameworks to help schools embrace AI confidently whilst keeping children safe.

As a bonus, you'll also have eye-catching posters to spread the safety message inside and outside of school.

So, whether you're a teacher, a parent or a student eager to explore the online universe, this guide is for you. Dive in, share it with your network, and let's begin the journey towards a safer, smarter, and more empowering online experience for all.

Resources for Primary Education

Lesson Plans

Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI

Ages 3 - 7   **Ages 7 - 11**

Be Internet Legends by Google & Parent

Helping children be safe and confident explorers of the online world.

BBC Online Safety Resources

A collection of teaching resources that can be used to explore online safety with both primary and secondary pupils.

CyberSprinters

CyberSprinters empowers 7-11 year olds to make smart decisions about staying secure online.

Primary School Resources

From cyberbullying to thinking critically about the online information they read, these resources help teach children about safe online use.

All Fun and Games?

Learning activities for exploring respect and relationships online, with a focus on gaming and interactive entertainment spaces.

Ages 3 - 7   **Ages 7 - 11**

Group Chats

A collection of activities to use with children aged 9-13, to explore safe and responsible use of group chats.

Moving On Up

A toolkit with videos and lesson plans for adults helping young people aged 10-13 with the online aspects of moving to secondary school.

Just a Joke

Lesson plans, quick activities, a quiz and a teaching guide designed to explore problematic online sexual behaviour with 9-12 year olds.

Online Safety Calendar 2025-26

This annual 'Online Safety Calendar' offers you engaging ways of incorporating online safety advice into the curriculum.

Learning Games

- **Interland by Google**
- **Band Runner by CEOP**
- **Privacy Pirates by MediaSmarts**

Downloadable Posters

- **SMART Rules by Childnet**
- **Digital Wellbeing Posters by Internet Matters**
- **You Can't Block Out Feelings**
- **Who Am I Really Chatting To Online?**

Resources for Secondary Education

Live Assembly: Tech for Online Safety

To help celebrate Safer Internet Day on **Tuesday 10th February** our Tech She Can Teacher, Louise, will deliver a virtual 25-minute Tech We Can LIVE assembly for students aged 11-14.

Register

to join these Live Assemblies on Safer Internet Day (1:30pm) or (2:30pm)

Lesson Plans

Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI

Ages 11 - 14   **Ages 14 - 18**

AI Safety

Equip learners with the knowledge and skills to responsibly and safely navigate the challenges associated with AI, from data privacy, misinformation, and factchecking, to deepfakes and generative AI.

Be Internet Legends by Google

Now includes AI safety modules alongside existing online safety content, helping children understand AI-generated content and how to spot it.

Google Quick, Draw!

A delightful introduction to how AI "sees" the world. Children draw something in 20 seconds while AI tries to guess what it is.

Emoji Scavenger Hunt by Google

Students get an emoji and must find that object using their camera. AI recognises when they find the correct item. Teaches object recognition.

GenType

Design and download one-of-a-kind AI generated alphabets with Google Labs. Tools for anyone to create, learn, develop and play with the future of AI.

Trust Me

Focuses on inaccurate and pervasive information online and opens up discussions to develop critical thinking skills.

BBC Online Safety Resources

A collection of teaching resources that can be used to explore online safety with both primary and secondary pupils.

Banter or Bullying?

A lesson encouraging students to consider the differences between banter and bullying.

Herd Mentality

An exploration into the motivations and pressures young people face when encountering online challenges.

Find the Fake

Can you find the fake online? Select an age-appropriate quiz to play as a group (adults versus children) to learn and test your knowledge on fake news, disinformation and misinformation and how to stop it from spreading.

Keep Calm and Stay in Control (Supported by Meta)

This resource is designed for Anti-Bullying Ambassadors aged 11+ to deliver sessions to their peers on the topic of Digital Wellbeing.

Promoting Diversity Online (Supported by DfE)

This activity guide provides fun, short activities on how to use social media for allyship, anti-racism, inclusivity and for good.

Secondary School Resources

From managing their screen time to navigating cyberbullying or inappropriate content, here is a variety of secondary school resources to help teach teens about safe online use.

It's Not Ok

It's Not OK helps children and young people recognise concerning behaviour and identify characteristics of abusive and exploitative relationships.

Downloadable Posters

- **Step Up Speak Up Poster**
- **'Perfect' Social Lives**
- **The Going Viral Spiral**

Resources for Parents

What are AI Chatbots and Companions

AI chatbots and companion apps are popular among children who experience both benefits and risks. See how you can help them navigate this technology safely.

NSPCC AI Safety Guide

Practical tips for parents about AI-generated content, chatbots, and deepfakes, with conversation starters to use at home.

Me, Myself and AI

Through speaking with children, this report aims to highlight some of the challenges and opportunities AI chatbots present, to ensure children are considered at the outset of the design of generative AI applications.

My Family's Digital Toolkit

Get personalised online safety advice, giving you everything you need to keep your child safe.

Supporting children at different ages with their use of technology

Helpful tips to determine what is right for your child in terms of tech ownership and usage throughout childhood.

Online Safety at Home Activities

Support your children and enjoy being safer online as a family, using our home activity sheets and films on a range of online safety topics.

Nude selfies: what parents and carers need to know

Teenagers tell us that sharing sexual pictures and videos is not unusual. It can be risky but don't panic, there are steps you can take if things get out of control.

Help build TRUST with our safe phone toolkit

Vodafone and the NSPCC have created this toolkit to make it easier for your family to feel confident about using phones and devices safely.

Reports, Guides and Frameworks for Teachers

- **Generative AI in Education - DfE Guidance**
- **Using AI in Education: Support Materials (DfE)**
- **Keeping Children Safe in Education 2025 (KCSIE)**
- **DfE Generative AI: Product Safety Expectations**
- **DfE Cybersecurity Standards for Schools**
- **AI in Education: Getting it Right**
- **Artificial Intelligence in Schools: Everything you need to know**
- **Empowering Learners for the Age of AI**
- **UNESCO AI and Education Guidance**
- **Anyone Can Learn AI**
- **AI Guidance for Schools Toolkit**
- **OpenAI for Education 101**
- **AI and Children (UNICEF)**

Safeguarding & Child Protection

- [NSPCC Learning: AI and Child Safety](#)

- [Smoothwall: Navigating AI Safely in Education](#)

- [UK Safer Internet Centre](#)

- [Ofsted: AI in Schools Research](#)

- [ICO: AI and Data Protection in Schools](#)

- [Embedding Online Safety: *(Primary Schools)* *(Secondary Schools)*](#)

- [DfE Digital Standards: Filtering and Monitoring](#)

- [Modern cybersecurity terms that schools should know](#)

- [Cyber-Security Cheat Sheet for Schools](#)

- [Working Together to Safeguard Children](#)

- [Building Your School's Cyber Defence](#)

Resource/Content Credit to:

Tech She Can	Education Hub
Google	UK Safer Internet Centre
BBC	Dataspire Solutions
NCSC	European Commission
Internet Matters	Code.org
Childnet	UNICEF
CEOP Education	OpenAI
MediaSmarts	Ofsted
Experience AI	TeachAI
Ditch the Label	UNESCO
National Crime Agency	ICO
Anti-Bullying Pro	Smoothwall
NSPCC	Data Education in Schools
Department for Education	National Literacy Trust

All resources are free to access and have been verified as current for 2025-2026.
Schools are encouraged to review and adapt materials to suit their specific needs and circumstances.

About Dataspire

We're Dataspire, and we've been supporting schools with their IT since 2005.

We work with primary schools, secondaries and multi-academy trusts across the UK, providing managed IT services, cybersecurity and digital transformation support that's built around how schools actually work.

We created this guide because online safety matters to us. We know how much pressure you're under to keep children safe online whilst managing everything else on your plate. If we can make that a bit easier, we've done our job.

If you'd like to talk about your school's online safety, cybersecurity or any aspect of your IT, we're here. No sales pitch, just a conversation with people who understand schools.

For more resources and information about our services:

Visit our website at: **www.dataspire.co.uk**

Email us at: **info@dataspire.co.uk**

Call us at: **0345 603 1233**

Or follow us on any of our social channels:

**Whichever way you choose to contact us,
we look forward to hearing from you.**